

on your time more than necessary -

pecuniary reverses consequent upon the result, of the late War have left me no option, but render it necessary for me to sell for money regard less of my feelings & wishes, whatever I can spare to pay debts and obtain such things as are absolutely necessary for myself & family. Thinking it would be an acquisition desirable for the National Art Gallery, which your Munificence has lately bestowed upon the Government, I take the liberty of mentioning it to you, hoping you may think the trustees whom you may appoint could not better invest a part of the trust funds in their hands than in its purchase. The time at which Congress made the offer I just mentioned was during the session 33 & 34. just after my Husband had loaned it to that body. To have a copy taken for the Government, which copy was then placed in the Public National Gallery in Philadelphia. Reference to letters in my possession. Evidence on oath, as to its History, &c &c will be furnished if desired, the witnesses being parties well known in Virginia. Should you not wish to

Relic from generation to generation? Every Engraving, Likeness, & Sculpture that have been taken of Mr Henry were taken from this likeness. It seems to me that this ought still to be the wish of Congress. Because Mr Henry was the first to start the great contest for Freedom and strength. But to tender it as a donation though far more in accordance with my feelings, is as I have just said precluded by my circumstances. The time at which Congress made the offer I just mentioned was during the session 33 & 34. just after my Husband had loaned it to that body. To have a copy taken for the Government, which copy was then placed in the Public National Gallery in Philadelphia. Reference to letters in my possession. Evidence on oath, as to its History, &c &c will be furnished if desired, the witnesses being parties well known in Virginia. Should you not wish to

Dear Sir,

Washington, D.C. ^{June 18} ¹⁸⁶⁹ 1869.

I perceive by the newspapers, that the Hon. W. W. Corcoran, accompanied his noble gift of his "Temple dedicated to Art," with the donation, also, of the rents &c, due by the Govt, for the rent, use &c, of that fine edifice, as a fund towards the support of that Institution. Appreciating, in common with my fellow Citizens, the magnitude of this gift, and the advantages it will confer on this, my Native City, I beg leave to tender to you, and through you to the Board of Managers or Trustees, my services in making up the account, - preparing the proof, and passing through the settlements of the claim for that rent, &c, before the Executive Departments, and if necessary, through the Court of Claims. My long experience in business of this kind, will, I think, commend my application to the favorable consideration of the Board; and if approved, it will

afford me sincere pleasure to render those
services gratuitously; as it is my earnest desire
in this, the only way in my power, to give
my small tribute towards carrying out the
noble object of this gift.

Truly Yours

John Wilson.

Mr. ^{W. H. Wilson} (12)

June 3. 1869

offering services, gratis.

Prof^r Belloni's 43 Pine St
New York June 4/69

Sir.

I have here two gallery
pictures which came to me
from my uncles collection &
which I wish to sell. One is
"The Virgin Mary & St Anna" by
Blomarte a panel picture
5 feet by 4 in the original oak
carved frame. The other "Perseus
& Andromeda" by Albano. 3 by 2 1/2.
both in excellent order. Can you
oblige me by sending some one
to look at them.

Yrs faithfully
Charles Lempriere
late Colonial Secy for Bahama

^{Lempriere}
Chr. Lempriere (13)

Nov 4. 69

Offering to sell tickets

^{Mallet}
A. W. Mallet (14)
June 5th 1869

acknowledged

Treasury Department,
Office of the Supervising Architect.
June 5th 1869.

A. Hyde Esq
Secy. Board Trustees
Circum Art. Gallery
Sir:

Yours of the
4th informing me of my
appointment as Architect
(without compensation) is
at hand. Please say to
the Board that the
appointment is highly
appreciated, and I shall
be ready at any time when
called on

Very Respectfully
J. S. Mullan

^{Wilcox}
Anna M. Wilcox (15)
June 7, 1809

offers to see painting

Mr. Myer,

Wilmington
(N. C.)

Waltham June 7. 1869

Mr Hyde.

My dear Sir,

Many death requisites to be in
the country - It is my intention to break up house
keep, and leave the city. I have a fine old
painting - would Mr Coryman purchase it, will
take forty dollars for it - I am in need of the
amount -

Respectfully

Anna M. Wiley.

Please answer -

No 22: 22nd St -

J. P. Webster (16)

June 8. 1869

Wants a Studio in Art Building

Successful Completion of
your project so magnificently
carried out. I am with
the highest esteem and regard
Yours most sincerely
T. P. Poppleton.

Cold Spring and Hudson
Jan^y 1st 1869.

My dear Mr. Corcoran

Do you remember we
once had a talk about a
studio in your Art Building?
I have long thought that I
should like to spend my winters
in Washington, and if I could
serve the interests of art in any
way connected with your
Institution I should be pleased
to hear from you.
Congratulating you on the

R. E. ^{Smith} Smith (17)
Stour June 9. 1869

offers Pictures for sale

Formerly I am well known by Christopher Grammer Esq.
of your City as R. E. Smith

remainders were stored in the Old Custom House here, until lately, when the person whose letters enclosed, desired to take them to Chicago; thinking he could establish a Gallery there; — He expended considerable sums, in Advances, renovating and other expenses, over \$1500, for which he desires the Copy of the "Rape of the Sabines" after Rubens, — Only mention this, to shew that they are not ordinary, and the value appreciated as per his letter &c,

In 1846, I was offered \$2500 for the "Transfiguration" and declined. They are finer Specimens of the Fine Art than any I saw in the Capitol, years ago.

The remainders still preserved are those as per enclosed list. —

Now, I propose, and wish to do this, I will have them shipped to you or such address in Washington as you may please to direct, and after close inspection and

examination, allow me whatever your Magnanimous generosity may decide. — It is all I have to depend on after a life of intense labor, misfortune, and ill-health. — In your possession, the paintings will be invaluable, for I assert with truthful Assurance, that they are not surpassed by any thing of their dimensions and kind in this Country. — Prosperity would have induced me to donate as you did; for reasons stated, it is otherwise.

Being destitute of present means, I will need \$100 for expenses &c. to go to Chicago, preferring to see and attend in person to their shipment, or if you do not like to do so, will have them forwarded as directed.

If you decline to accept my offer altogether, have the goodness to remit the enclosed letters &c to my Address.

Very truly, & Respectfully,
R. E. Smith,

1421 Chambers Street

St: Louis Mo.

W. W. Corcoran, Esq. June 9. / 69.

Washington. D.C.

Dear Sir

Observing your liberal
donation for a "National Art Gallery" I am induced
to offer you the remainder of a Collection of Magnificent
Old Historical Paintings, which have been in my
possession over fourth of a Century, and Original paintings
by John Quidor, who was a student with Henry Inman
to the Celebrated Jarvis, — Inman remarked that
Quidor possessed the best imagination as a historical painter
than any other Artist in America,

The frames &c were burned in the great fire
of ~~St~~ Louis in 1849. — Subsequently other paintings
were burned with the Steamer Illinois, while lying at
New Orleans on their way to Havana: — The

Massily (18)
Geo. A. Maule
June 9. 1869

offering Titian's "Crucifixion"

is well known to the German artists.
A European prejudice forbidding
her to sell in the old country
that last jewel of an ancient
splendor, Countess J. has found
it advisable to send that work
of the great master, the only one
perhaps that exists in this country,
to the United States. Whether
she was not mistaken, remains
to be seen.

The great painter Haubach
writes on that picture with great
admiration, and speaks of it as
an ornament to any gallery open
to works of 'Masters'. He values
that Titian at 20,000 to 30,000
Gulden. What the Lady would

take, I do not know.

I have no interest whatever
in the affair, except one of
charity.

Respectfully
Geo. A. Nasile

Washington, Patent Office.
Room 25.

June 9th. 1869.

Wm W. Corcoran, Esq^r ^{per} ¹⁰ ^{per} ^{per}
Washington,

Sir,

In calling on you this morning, my object was to speak to you of a magnificent picture Titian's representing the "Crucifixion". It seems to have belonged to a Convent at the time of the Reformation and has since then been in one and same noble family in Germany. An impoverished widow is the owner of that Titian, which she is compelled to sell for aiding in the education of two sons. That picture

^{Acad. Design}
National Academy of
Design. (19)

New York 23 June 1869

Congratz. Resolutions

From the Journal of the National Academy
of Design

"The Council of the National Academy
of Design congratulate the Country and all
lovers of Art on the munificent gift of -
Mr W. W. Corcoran to the city of Washing-
-ton, the Capital of the Nation of an Art
Gallery, with an endowment which cannot
fail, judiciously applied, to advance the
interests of the Arts throughout our Land.

Therefore, Resolved - That we the
Academy of Design will be happy to do
all in our power to further the objects
of this generous act"

A true Extract

F. Addison Richards

Cor. Secretary

AA

National Academy of Design,

New-York,

23rd June 1869

To W W Corcoran Esq

Dear Sir

By order of the Council
of the National Academy of Design I have the
honour to transmit to you the accompanying
- my copy of congratulatory Resolutions,
upon your munificent foundation of
a public Gallery of Art in the City
of Washington

with great respect

Your obedient Servant

T. Addison Richards

Secy

T.A.

C. W. Goady (20)

London July 10. 1869

Offering Ben. West's picture
of the "Resurrection" for £2000

London
44 Gerrard St. Soho

July 10 1869

W. W. Corcoran Esq

Sir

Having been recommended by Col
Sanderson of the Langham Hotel
London to write to you upon the
following subject I beg to take the
liberty of so doing & hope you will
excuse me making this intrusion
on your time. I am the owner
of a very valuable Picture painted
by the late Benjamin West P.R.A.
who was Native of Philadelphia in
which place as in others of the United
States the extreme beauty of his
works are justly appreciated
let me beg you will allow me
to introduce this picture to you

Picture it being one of extreme beauty & an exceedingly fine production of this admirable master & is gallery size measuring $7\frac{1}{2}$ feet high by $5\frac{1}{2}$ feet broad the subject the 'Resurrection' figures are life size the very beautiful expressions of the Saviour's face is a marked feature in this work as also the surprising beauty of drawing & coloring of the Angel who has watched the tomb & is startled by the sudden appearance of the Saviour. It is a most effective & beautiful picture & I can say without the least hesitation it is one of the very finest works of

Benjamin West - It is suitable for an altar piece or public gallery & now it is America it would realize an enormous price - the amount I require for it is two thousand pounds

Begin you will pardon me for troubling you

Yours faithfully
John Jay

E. W. Goudge

As this picture is for sale at 59 South Street - London